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REQUEST **FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

> Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

ction of information unless it displays a valid office control number.					
Application Number	09/873,250				
Filing Date	June 5, 2001				
First Named Inventor	YUICHI MATSUMOTO, ET AL.				
Group Art Unit	2614				
Examiner Name	M.R. Shannon				
Attorney Docket Number	03500.015419				

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114									
_	a. X Previously submitted								
,		i. ii. iii.	i. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on						
	b.		Enc	closed		12/21/2005 SZEWDIE1 00000061 09873250			
	i. Amendment/Reply ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Other			Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)	·	01 FC:1801	790.00 OP		
2.	. Miscellaneous								
	a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)								
	b. Other								
3.	Fe	es	The F	RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.	114 when the Re	CE is filed.			
	a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No06-1205								
		i. ii. iii.	X.	RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and Other	1.17)				
	b.	X	Che	ck in the amount of \$is	enclosed.				
c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)									
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED									
Name	e (<i>Pi</i>	rint/Typ	pe)	SCOTT D. MALPEDE	Registration	No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,533		
Signature CM Man		Date	December 20, 2005						
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION									
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:									
Nam	e (<i>P</i>	rint/Typ	pe)						
		Signat		lour Statement: This form is actimated to take 0.2 hours to com-	Date				

comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Form #161 SDM\mm